



OPERA LAFAYETTE PRESENTS
The Leonore Series

TEXT FROM Beethoven's *Leonore*
Marzelline and Leonore



THE LEONORE SERIES

Original version of FIDELIO of 1805 Opera in three acts

Music by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Libretto by Joseph Sonnleithner

Based on the drama of Jean Nicolas Bouilly "Léonore"

Created: 1805, Theater an der Wien

DISTRIBUTION

Don Fernando, Minister - Baritone

Pizarro, Governor of a State prison - Baritone

Florestan, Prisoner – Tenor

Leonore, his wife - Soprano

Rocco, Jailer - Bass Marcelina, his daughter - Soprano

Jaquino, Doorman - Tenor

1st Prisoner – Tenor

2nd Prisoner – Bass

WEEK FOUR :

MARCELINA

It is the time when I let the prisoners come to take a breath of fresh air. Take heart, dear friend, take heart! – If you have no parents, you have Marcelina who loves you so much that she can stand for all the others. Do you understand me? for all of them – yes, yes, all of them. (leaves with the laundry)

SCENE III

LEONORE

What touching abandonment! – What pleasant candor! Time is nearing when I have the opportunity to go into the secret dungeons of the fortress. Yes, my husband lives, he lives in this prison! – Everything tells me so! – God gave me strength beyond hope! Take heart! Whatever may happen to me, I must finish my undertaking.

Nr. 11 Recitative and aria

LEONORE

Ah, do not break, my blunted heart!
You have endured with every blow
During these frightful days
New pains and anxious frights.
Ah, do not break, my blunted heart!
Come, o hope, do not let the last star
Of the weary fade away!
Come, oh come shine over their goal,
Even if it is still distant
Love, love will reach it.

Come, oh come shine over their goal,
Come, o hope, do not let the last star etc.

O you for whom I bear everything,
If I could go to where
Wickedness has thrown you in fetters,
And bring you sweet comfort!
I follow my profound instinct,
I do not waiver,
I find strength in the duty
Of a faithful conjugal love.